

# Chelsea Top Group With Comfortable Win at 10-Man Milan



Milan's Matteo Gabbia in action with Chelsea's Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang

MILAN (Reuters) - Chelsea have completed the double over AC Milan to top Champions League Group E with a 2-0 victory at San Siro, a match the hosts had to play the majority of with 10 men.

Looking to build on a 3-0 win over the Italians last week, Chelsea's task in Milan's famous old stadium was made all the more navigable after home defender Fikayo Tomori was sent off against his former club when conceding a 17th-minute penalty.

Jorginho converted from the spot after Milan's protests had calmed

down, before striker Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang scored for the third successive match in all competitions to double Chelsea's lead in the 34th minute.

With the numerical disadvantage, chances were at a premium for Milan in the second half, full-back Sergino Dest wasting the best of them by blazing over from a good position.

Chelsea remained mostly untroubled though, with the victory moving them to seven points from four matches, a point ahead of RB Salzburg and three in front of Milan and Dinamo Zagreb.

"We had a bit of luck with the opposition going down to 10 men. It's nice for the penalty and nice for Jorginho to score. It was a nice move to lead to it. It is what it is. Sometimes they go for you. Overall the performance was good."

Qualification for the knockout

stages looked like it may be a tall order for Chelsea after a shock defeat in their group opener at Dinamo Zagreb was followed by a disappointing home draw with Salzburg.

But victory over seven-time European Cup winners and Serie A champions Milan last week brought Chelsea right back into it -- setting things up nicely for the return match in Italy.

England international Tomori's foul on Mason Mount, however, effectively ended the match as a contest.

Tomori, who joined Milan from Chelsea in 2021, could not believe the referee showed him a straight red card, but the decision stood after a VAR review, as the 24-year-old became the first English player to get sent off in a Champions League game against an English side.

## Ahvaz to Host WKFB Int'l Tournament



TEHRAN – Ahvaz will host the World Kyokushin Federation Budo (WKFB) international Karate tournament.

WKFB international Karate tournament will be hosted by Ahvaz, Iran on October 19-21, 2022, according to Iran Karate Federation (IKF).

Athletes from 30 countries compete in the competition, which will be held in the men's and women's divisions.

Kyokushin is a style of stand-up, full-contact karate, founded in 1964 by Korean-Japanese Masutatsu Oyama.

## Rudiger Rescues Real Madrid From Defeat Against Shakhtar

WARSAW (Reuters) - Antonio Rudiger's header in stoppage time allowed Real Madrid to draw with Shakhtar Donetsk 1-1 in the UEFA Champions League game in Warsaw, Poland.

Igor Jovicevic's team, who lost to Real 2-1 on the road a week ago, played with courage from the first minute. Before the break both teams had problems converting their chances, as the visitors had four attempts on target but Shakhtar's goalie Anatoliy Trubin didn't make a single mistake between the posts.

The hosts broke the deadlock just after the break, as Bohdan Mykhaylichenko's superb cross allowed Oleksandr Zubkov to beat his compatriot Andriy Lunin with a perfect header.

After conceding a goal, the Spanish side speeded up their play to take the possession.



Real Madrid's German defender Antonio Rudiger (right) scores the 1-1 goal against Shakhtar Donetsk's Ukrainian goalkeeper Anatoliy Trubin (2nd right) and Shakhtar Donetsk's Ukrainian defender Mykola Matviyenko (3rd R) try to stop the ball during the UEFA Champions League group F football match Shakhtar Donetsk vs Real Madrid in Warsaw, Poland, on Oct 11, 2022.

Carlo Ancelotti, who rotated the squad, put Vinicius Junior and Luka Modric on the pitch

to level the result but Real still couldn't find an equalizer as Shakhtar defended very well.

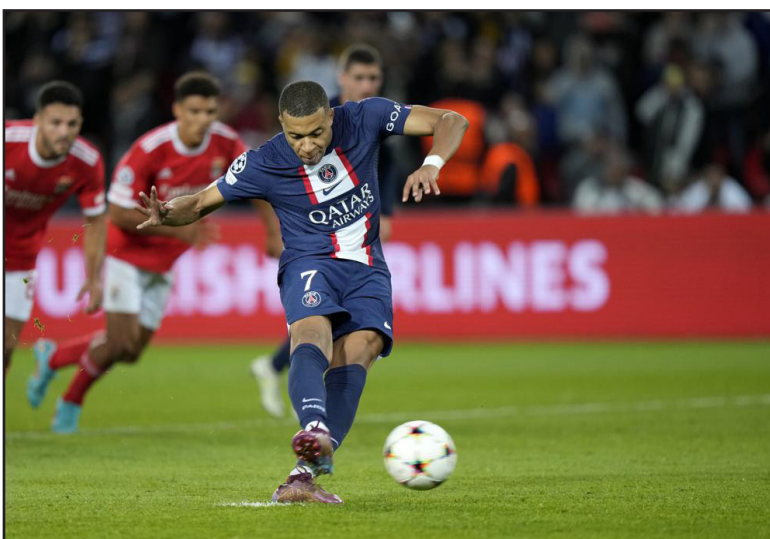
In the 86th minute Vinicius Junior should have scored but he missed the target with a header from close range after a good pass from the right wing.

Shakhtar were just seconds from a historic win over Real but in the fifth minute of additional time, Rudiger's header gave "Los Blancos" one point. The German defender finished Toni Kroos' cross to head home in dramatic circumstances, colliding heads with Shakhtar goalkeeper Trubin in the fight for the ball.

Rudiger injured his head and left the pitch with blood on his shirt.

After four games, Ancelotti's side sit at the top of Group F with 10 points. Shakhtar are in third place with five points, one less than RB Leipzig who beat Celtic 2-0 on Tuesday evening.

## Mbappé Scores as PSG Held 1-1 by Benfica in Champions League



PSG's Kylian Mbappe scores his side's opening goal from penalty during the Champions League Group H soccer match between Paris Saint Germain and Benfica, at the Parc des Princes stadium, in Paris, France, Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2022.

PARIS (AP) — Paris Saint-Germain can still count on Kylian Mbappé despite rumors he wants to leave the club.

The World Cup winner scored his 31st Champions League goal for PSG to become the club's record scorer in the competition as the French champions drew 1-1 with Benfica.

Mbappé scored from the penalty spot five minutes before the interval to put PSG in the lead. Joao Mario brought Benfica level with another penalty in the 62nd minute.

Mbappé thought for a moment he had sealed PSG's win and started celebrating in the 87th, but his spectacular volley into the roof of the net was disallowed for an off-side position.

After Juventus lost 2-0 to Maccabi Haifa in the other game, PSG and Benfica are tied with eight points at the top of Group H. Juventus and Haifa have three points each.

All eyes were on Mbappé at the Parc des Princes after reports claiming the star wanted a way out emerged earlier in the day. The France forward looked relaxed and smiling before kickoff as he waited with his teammates before walking out to the field.

Once on the pitch, Mbappé produced his trademark acceleration

and unsettled defenders with his dribbles, but struggled to be decisive.

PSG pushed hard toward the end of the first half and was rewarded with a penalty when Juan Bernat surged into the box and was fouled by Antonio Silva.

Mbappé took the kick and converted from the spot with a low shot that wrongfooted goalkeeper Odysseas Vlachodimos.

Benfica deployed the same strategy as last week in Portugal during their 1-1 draw, with an intense press from the start. PSG weathered the pressure quite well and managed to recover the ball quickly in an even start to the match without chances.

With the injured Lionel Messi watching from the stands, Benfica had the first shot of the match in the 17th, with an effort from Gonçalo Ramos blocked by the defense. The visitors then kept pace with PSG until Silva's mistake.

PSG played cautiously in the second half and Benfica was dangerous from crosses.

The visitors got a a penalty with 30 minutes left following a VAR check that confirmed that Marco Verratti fouled Rafa Silva just inside the box. João Mário converted it with a powerful shot down the middle.

## Nordic Nations Make Joint Bid for Women's Euro 2025



OSLOW (Reuters) - The Nordic countries of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden will submit a

joint bid to host the 2025 Women's European Championship, they announced on Wednesday, supported

by the Faroe Islands and Iceland.

"Women's football in the Nordic countries has so much to offer," said Lise Klaveness, president of the Norwegian Football Federation (NFF).

"We offer to share with the rest of Europe our joint ambition to leave a long-lasting legacy of truly equal opportunities in football."

The venues planned for the tournament are Copenhagen, Stockholm, Oslo, Helsinki, Odense, Gothenburg, Trondheim and Tampere.

"Together we will provide a unique experience for both players and supporters," said Karl-Er-

ik Nilsson, president of the Swedish Football Association (SvFF).

"All Nordic football associations agree about the importance of organising major championships in our countries, and together we have great ambitions for the development of women's football."

Bidding closes on Oct. 12, with France, Poland and Switzerland also seeking to host the event. Ukraine had expressed interest in hosting the event before the Russian invasion.

UEFA's Executive Committee will decide on the winning bid on Jan. 25.

## CONMEBOL Back Infantino for New Term as FIFA President

PARIS (Reuters) - The South American Football Confederation (CONMEBOL) expressed its unanimous support for incumbent FIFA president Gianni Infantino as he seeks to be re-elected at the 73rd FIFA congress in March next year.

Infantino, 52, will be standing for a third stint in charge of soccer's global governing body having defeated Sheikh Salman to claim the presidency in 2016 following Sepp Blatter's resigna-

tion.

"After a conversation about the current reality and the future scenario for South American and world football, the CONMEBOL member associations gave their unanimous support to Infantino..." CONMEBOL said in a joint statement on Tuesday.

The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) and the Confederation of African Football (CAF) have also expressed their support for Infantino in recent months.



Gianni Infantino